

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 92-154

AN ORDER RESCINDING CEASE AND DESIST ORDER NO. 91-136 FOR USS-POSCO INDUSTRIES, PITTSBURG, CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, (hereinafter called the Board), finds that:

1. On May 18, 1988, the Regional Board adopted Order No. 88-085 (NPDES No. CA0005002), prescribing waste discharge requirements for USS-Posco Industries, Pittsburg (hereinafter referred to as the discharger).
2. On September 18, 1991 the Board adopted Cease and Desist Order No. 91-136 against USS-Posco Industries for violations of certain Effluent Limitations, and Prohibitions C.1. and C.2. Effluent Limitation violations included toxicity, hexavalent chromium, lead, nickel, and zinc. Prohibition C.1. prohibits shallow water discharges receiving a minimum initial dilution of less than 10:1, unless granted an exception by the Board; Prohibition C.2. prohibits the discharge of conservative toxic and deleterious substances.
3. Order No. 91-136 required USS-Posco Industries to Cease and Desist from discharging waste contrary to requirements prescribed by the Board, and established tasks with time schedules for compliance with Effluent Limitations and Discharge Prohibitions specified in USS-Posco's NPDES permit.
4. The tasks were divided into two phases; an immediate action phase to be completed by March 31, 1992, and a comprehensive long term remedial action phase to be completed by June 30, 1993. These phases require each action in three different areas including source control, best management practices (BMP), and toxicity control. Because USS-Posco completed the immediate action phase tasks, which resulted in continued NPDES permit compliance performance, completion of the comprehensive long term remedial action phase is no longer necessary.
5. Actions completed by USS-Posco include construction of containment and isolation berms within the various process area basements, revision and submittal of final BMP report to the Regional Board, and reformulation of a cleaner used at various process lines to remove a highly toxic defoamer.
6. The discharger, in a letter to the Regional Board dated September 30, 1992, requested formal rescission of Cease and Desist Order No. 91-136, proposed not to construct a deepwater

outfall given its recent successful compliance history with permitted NPDES effluent limitations, and does not intend to seek an alternate discharge limit.

7. The Board finds that USS-Posco fully complied with all provisions of Cease and Desist Order No. 91-136, and achieved full compliance with its Waste Discharge Requirements, Order No. 88-085.
8. The Board notified the discharger and other interested persons of its intent to rescind the Cease and Desist Order, and provided them with an opportunity to provide written comments.
9. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the proposed rescission action.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Cease and Desist Order No. 91-136 be rescinded.

I, Steven R. Ritchie, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on December 16, 1992.



STEVEN R. RITCHIE
Executive Officer